Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—From the Agricultural Department of the Dominion of South Africa. They select the best animals, insure them and send them on to us.

Mr. H. K. VEERANNA GOWDA.—Does the department get any money when the animals die, because they are insured?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—Yes. That question is now under correspondence with the company concerned.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—There are only two merino rams alive now. Can they serve all the four farms?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—In Ajjampur and Basur we have merino rams. And in Hebbal we have good varieties of cross-breds. During the mating season, the merino rams will be sent to these places.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—Is not a sheep-rearing station necessary for Kolar?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—But it depends upon climatic conditions. For instance, in Ajjampur, the merino rams live for a long time, but if they are taken to Kolar, they may die. That is why high-class cross-breds are supplied for Kolar. In Goribidnur and also in Bowringpet, there are good flocks and to those places, merino rams are being sent during the mating season.

Mr. K. M. KRISHNAPPA GOWDA.—Has all the work so far done not resulted in producing a sufficient number of cross-bred rams for service in all the places?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—No, because the number of cross-breds is limited.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—Are any rams being imported from Australia?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—No, there are difficulties in the way of doing so. So, we get them from South Africa. Of the two rams now living, one is Australian and the other South African.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—Which is better?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—Both are equally good.

Lokasevaniratha Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY.—What will be the cost price and what the transport charges for each ram got from South Africa?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—The cost ranges from £5 to £50 and the transport charges about Rs. 100.

Mr. Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA.—Who is the officer in charge of the rams and their work?

Mr. K. M. KRISHNAPPA GOWDA.—There are fieldmen in all the taluks. So what is the difficulty in maintaining a few rams in each taluk?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—Not all fieldmen can take proper care of merino rams. There are some Inspectors and Fieldmen specially trained for the purpose.

Mr. K. M. KRISHNAPPA GOWDA.—How many fieldmen with the required training are available in the Kolar District?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—Only a few. We shall increase their number also in course of time.

Mr. Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA.—At least in future, will more work be done in this direction?

Mr. T. G. RAMA IYER.—To the extent funds become available, it will be done. Meanwhile the Government are pleased to note that the members are so keen about this activity of the department.

Hand-loom Weaving Industry.

Q.—7. Messrs. Shampur PAPANNA and S. MUNIVENKATAPPA (Minorities); T. THIMMARAYAPPA and Patel HONNASIDDAIYA (Magadi Taluk); T. MADIAH GOWDA and M. SIDDEGOWDA (Channapatna Taluk); B. CHOODE GOWDA and M. B. GURULINGIAH (Closepet Taluk); C. N. NARASINGA RAO (Bangalore City Municipality); K. NARAYANA SETTY (Magadi Municipality); S. KARIAPPA and Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA (Kankanhalli Taluk); A. M. VENKATASAMIAH (Closepet Municipality); N. APPANNA REDDY (Bangalore Taluk); A. HANUMANTHARAYAPPA (Devanhalli Taluk); H. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO, K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR, B. M. MUNISWAMAPPA and V. VENKATESAIYA (Special Interests); Patel HANUME GOWDA (Dodballapur Taluk); B. MALLAPPA and A. M. CHANNAMARE GOWDA (Nelamangala Taluk,); K. P. PARASIVIAH (Kankanhalli Municipality); and S. SHARABHANNA (Anekal Taluk).

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of power-looms in Mysore, Bangalore and Dodballapur;

(*b*) the number that has been brought under the Factory Act;

(*c*) the number of inoperative looms in Dodballapur;

(*d*) whether it has come to their notice that, since the introduction of power-looms, the hand-loom workers are without work and are suffering for want of livelihood;

(*e*) if so, the action that the Government have taken or proposed to take in order to alleviate the situation?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatanaranappa).**—

(*a*)—

Number of power-looms in Mysore City	...	200
Number of power-looms in Bangalore City	...	412
Number of power-looms in Dodballapur	...	469

(*b*)—

Number of power-looms in Mysore	...	68
Number of power-looms in Bangalore	...	338
Number of power-looms in Dodballapur	...	...

(*c*) 164.

(*d*) Government are aware that there is a certain amount of distress among hand-loom workers as a result of the increase in the number of power-looms.

(*e*) The question of ameliorating the condition of hand-loom weavers by providing them with facilities for the purchase of raw materials and disposal of their products as also by effecting improvements to technique is receiving the attention of Government.

Mr. Shampur PAPANNA.—From the answer it is seen that practically one-third of the looms in Dodballapur are idle. Does this not indicate that the situation is acute and that the answer given "that there is a certain amount of distress" does not represent the seriousness of the case?

Mr. M. VENKATANARANAPPA.—There is no idea of belittling the gravity of the situation. All that the answer means is that Government are aware that distress does prevail.

Mr. Shampur PAPANNA.—What action have the Government taken to improve the situation?

The DIRECTOR of INDUSTRIES and COMMERCE (Mr. M. S. Ramchendra Rao).—The trouble at present is the unhealthy competition among the weavers. If all the weavers come to an understanding, something could be done. Government want to help them by making raw materials available to them and by providing improved marketing facilities. One central society must be started and all primary societies should be affiliated to it. Raw materials should be supplied through the society and finished articles should be sold through the society. The standards also should be improved. All these things are under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. Patel HANUME GOWDA.—Out of the 469 power-looms how many are working now?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—All of them were working till recently; but some of them have recently stopped working, because the price of spun silk has gone up.

Mr. Patel HANUME GOWDA.—Is the spun silk manufactured at Channapatna supplied to all the weavers on an equitable basis?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—I think it is being done. About 2 lakhs of pounds of spun silk is used in Dodballapur. Out of this, 75,000 pounds alone is produced in Channapatna.

Mr. Patel HANUME GOWDA.—Has it come to the notice of Government that most of the spun silk manufactured at Channapatna is given to one party alone, and this is the cause of so many looms having to remain idle?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—I do not think so; I shall however make enquiries about it.

Mr. Patel HANUME GOWDA.—Will the question of manufacturing larger quantities of spun silk at Channapatna be considered by the Government?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—That is a question for the factory to consider.

Mr. S. RANGARAMIAH.—What is the total number of hand-looms which are idle? Has any attempt been made to collect statistics?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. S. RANGARAMIAH.—Is the scheme envisaged by the Director of Industries and Commerce proposed to be worked on a co-operative basis? If so, where will the central society be located?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—Yes. The central society will be located at Bangalore, and the primary societies, wherever there are a sufficient number of weavers. The society already established at Bangalore may as well be converted into a central society.

Mr. S. RANGARAMIAH.—Will the Government give any subvention to the society?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—Yes. They will also give it the services of a designer and a marketing officer. Depots will be opened and selling arrangements also made.

Mr. SURYANARAYANA RAO.—When will all this be done?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—Proposals are already under consideration.

Mr. T. L. GANGOJI RAO.—Why are there more power-looms in Dodballapur, though facilities are greater in Bangalore?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—I cannot say. Perhaps it is due to the fact that there are weavers there from time immemorial.

Mr. T. L. GANGOJI RAO.—Is it not due to the fact that no octroi duty is levied on foreign silk imported into that place while a heavy duty is levied on all silk imported into Bangalore?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—I think octroi duty is being levied in both the places.

Mr. T. L. GANGOJI RAO.—What are the facilities given to the hand-loom weavers by the society at Bangalore?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—I shall take another opportunity to explain all that.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Has any provision been made in the current year's budget for purposes of demonstration?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—Yes. The weaving demonstrators tour from place to place and teach the weavers newer designs and improved methods. Twenty to twenty-five villages in each district are selected every year.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Why not establish a regular school for this purpose?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—That has also been done. In Dodballapur, Gudibanda and some other places, there are schools. But the system of demonstrators going to the very doors of the weavers and demonstrating improved methods to the weavers is considered a more effective way of educating the weavers

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG.—Has any place in the Krishnarajpet Taluk been selected for purposes of these demonstrations?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—In Ramasamudra, for example, it has been done, and Kikkeri will be taken up soon.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF SAHIB.—Power-loom manufacture is less costly than hand-loom manufacture. Why not Government think of increasing the cost of power supplied to power looms so that the hand-loom weavers may be benefited?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—The rate for power is already high enough and it may not be advisable to further enhance it.

Mr. Shampur PAPANNA.—Are the Government aware that unhealthy competition is prevailing amongst the weavers, and if so, how will they try to discourage the same?

Mr. M. S. RAMCHENDRA RAO.—They are aware. If all the weavers unite and take the advice of the Government in the matter, all of them will stand to benefit by it.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—*contd.*

V. General Principles of the Bill to provide for the Establishment and Better Regulation of Agricultural Markets in the Mysore State.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatanaranappa), in explaining the